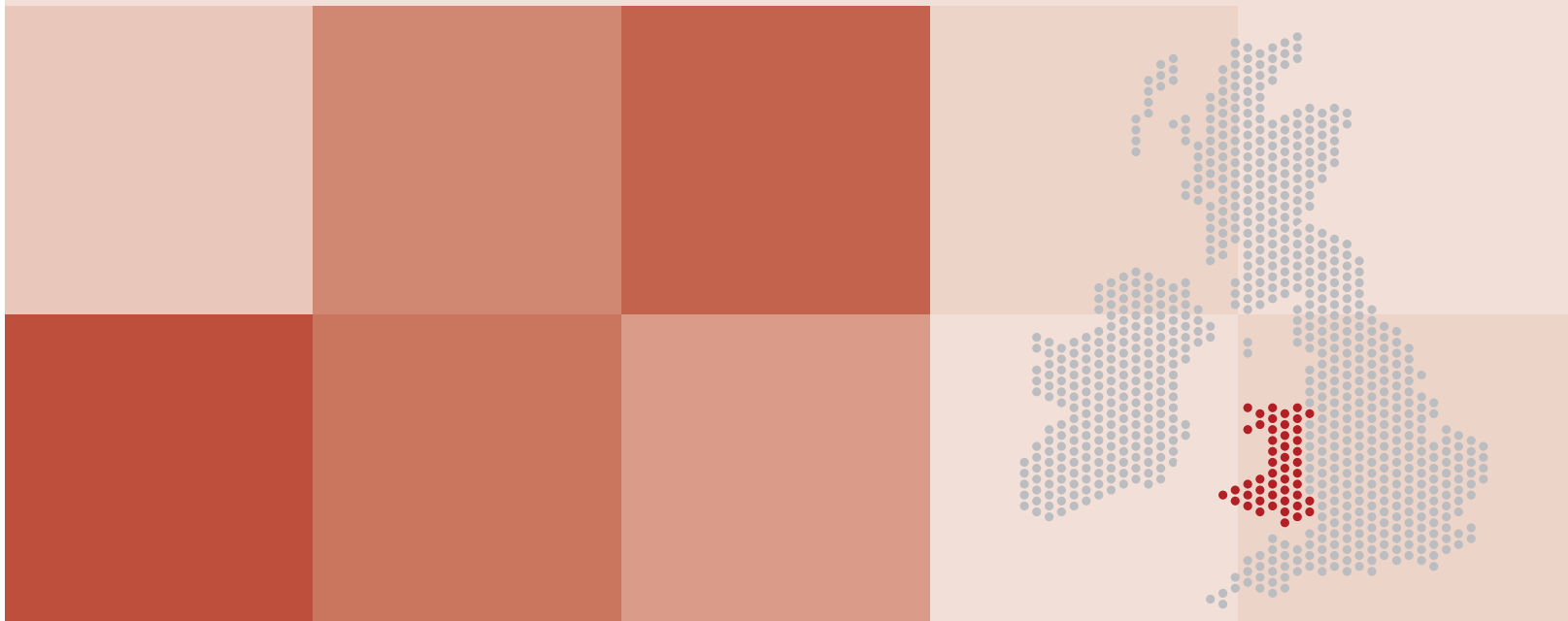




The Royal College of Pathologists
Pathology: the science behind the cure

Pathology priorities for Wales - 2016 elections



Pathology priorities for Wales - 2016 elections

In May the people of Wales will elect their representatives to the National Assembly. A new executive will take responsibility for a range of devolved areas including health services.

As the population gets older and long-term conditions increase it is more important than ever to support good

health, effective disease prevention and treatment. Pathology is the key to delivering those objectives.

To that end, The Royal College of Pathologists has developed four priorities that, if delivered, would improve the health of people in Wales and save money.



Dr Esther Youd
Chair, Royal College of Pathologists Wales
Regional Council



Pathology priorities for Wales - 2016 elections

The College and pathology

The Royal College of Pathologists

The Royal College of Pathologists is a charity with over 11,000 members worldwide, most of whom work in hospitals and universities in the UK.

In every devolved nation of the UK, the College has a council of local clinicians and scientists directing activity in their area. The chairs of the Wales, Northern Ireland

and Scotland councils represent their nations on the College's main Council and Trustee Board.

The College is committed to improving patient care by promoting excellence and maintaining the highest standards through training, assessments, examinations and professional development.

Pathology

Involved in 70% of all diagnoses made in the NHS, pathology is the medical specialty at the heart of modern healthcare.

Pathology is vital for the diagnosis of cancer, infections and organ damage, key to screening for congenital diseases, and essential for monitoring the progress of disease and its response to treatment, including chronic illnesses, such as diabetes and liver disease.

From prenatal testing and childhood vaccinations to

cancer screening, diagnosis and monitoring, pathology is vital at every stage of life.

Anyone who has a blood test, culture for bacteria, cervical smear or tissue biopsy has a pathologist involved in their care.

With the right support, pathology can play a central role in the delivery of a more effective health system in Wales improving the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of disease.

Priority one – Implement the national medical examiner system

First proposed in 2005 by the Shipman Inquiry, and subsequently recommended by the investigations into failings at Mid Staffordshire and Morecambe Bay NHS trusts, a national system of medical examiners would scrutinise all deaths. This would provide answers for families, accurate statistics to inform future health investment and identify trends in sub-standard care (such as those identified in the Andrews report, Trusted to Care), enabling action to be taken at the earliest opportunity.

In Wales, much has been done already with the introduction of a mortality review system, examining

deaths in hospitals, but this effort is hampered by variation between Health Boards and lack of resources. The medical examiner system would build upon the mortality review process, ensuring consistency across Wales and extending it from hospitals to include all deaths.

Nine pilot schemes in England and Wales have scrutinised over 23,000 deaths over five years. No other patient safety initiative can provide such benefits in such a cost-effective way and the Welsh Assembly Government should work with the Department of Health in England to implement the system as soon as possible.



Slide preparation at Cwm Taf Health Board



Pathology priorities for Wales - 2016 elections

Priority two – Train, recruit and retain the right workforce

Many pathology specialties face shortages in Wales, both in medical and scientific staff.

Pathology is key to achieving improved cancer diagnosis and treatment, improved public health, and infection prevention and control. Pathologists are an integral part of clinical teams across all of general medical and surgical care. Seven day services, an ageing population and advances in personalised medicine mean that demands on pathology services will continue to increase.

As training pathologists and scientists takes between

five and ten years it is important that sustained investment in creating a modern workforce is made now. Immediate investment in training places is needed, together with recruitment strategies to address current shortages at junior doctor and consultant level. International recruitment has suffered by increasingly stringent immigration laws, which have limited the number of overseas doctors able to work in the UK.

It is essential that Wales invests in pathology infrastructure to further develop high quality services that attract and retain the highest calibre doctors and scientists.

Demonstrating bacterial culture to students visiting Royal Glamorgan Hospital during National Pathology Week, which is organised by the College every November



Priority three – Make molecular pathology services equally available to all

In October 2015 Cardiff was chosen to be one of six regional centres of excellence for the Precision Medicine Catapult. Precision medicine (also known as personalised medicine) uses patient-specific tests to understand an individual patient's disease and select the most appropriate, safe and cost effective treatment for that individual. This expertise must be rapidly adopted by the NHS to maximise the benefits to patients in Wales.

Molecular techniques are changing the management and diagnosis of a number of diseases including cancer

diagnosis and treatment, and diagnosis of bacterial and viral infection. But there is huge variation in services across Wales leading to inequitable access to healthcare.

In contrast to other UK nations, in Wales there is a single All Wales Medical Genetics Service, which has expanded in response to changing technology and science, particularly in cancer care. This expanding service must be properly funded to ensure equitable access for all patients in Wales to the diagnostic and research opportunities this facility offers.





Pathology priorities for Wales - 2016 elections

Priority four – Ensure the right test at the right time

The Choosing Wisely campaign has been promoted across England and Wales, encouraging dialogue between patients and doctors about the value of medical tests, procedures and treatments.

In addition to ensuring every test is truly necessary, there are pathology tests that can prevent other potentially harmful, more invasive or expensive investigations and

treatments. Pathologists play a vital role in ensuring the right test is performed at the right time.

The Welsh Assembly Government should work with pathologists to ensure that everyone has access to the right tests and that all clinicians ordering pathology tests are trained to do so in the most effective way.



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Mawrth 2016

Blaenoriaeth Pedwar – Sicrhau y cynhelir y prawf cywir ar yr adeg gywir

Hyrwyddwyd yr ymgyrch Dewis Gofalus ar draws Cymru a Lloegr, gan annog trafodaeth rhwng cleifion a meddygon ynghylch gwerth profon, cyfundrefnau a thriniaethau eraill a allent fod yn fwy niweidiol, yn fwy profon patholeg yn bodoli sy'n gallu atal archwiliadau Yn ogystal â sicrhau fod gwir angen pob prawf, mae cleifion a meddygon ynghylch gwerth profon, cyfundrefnau a thriniaethau meddygol.

Hyrwyddwyd yr ymgyrch Dewis Gofalus ar draws Cymru a Lloegr, gan annog trafodaeth rhwng cleifion a meddygon ynghylch gwerth profon, cyfundrefnau a thriniaethau eraill a allent fod yn fwy niweidiol, yn fwy profon patholeg yn bodoli sy'n gallu atal archwiliadau

Dylai Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru weithio gyda phatholegwyr i sicrhau fod pawb yn gallu cyrchu'r profon cywir a bod pob clinigwr sy'n archebu profon patholeg wedi'i hyfforddi i wneud hynny yn y dull mwyaf effeithiol.

ymwthiol neu'n ddrtach. Mae patholegwyr yn chwarae rhan hanfodol yn y gwaith o sicrhau y cynhelir y prawf cywir ar yr adeg gywir.





Blaenoriaeth Tri – Trefnu bod gwasanaethau patholeg foleciolaidd ar gael yn gyfartal i bawb

canser, a diagnosis heintiad bacteriol a firael. Ond ceir amrywiaeth anferth yn y gwasanaethau ar draws Cymru, sy'n arwain at fynediad anghyfartal i ofal iechyd.

Mewn cyferbyniad â chenhedloedd eraill y DU, yng Nghymru ceir Gwasanaeth Geneteg Feddygol Cymru Gyfan sengl, sydd wedi ehangu fel ymateb i dechnoleg a gywyddoniaeth sy'n newid, yn enwedig o safbwynt gofal canser. Mae'n rhaid ariannu'r gwasanaeth datblygol hwn yn ddigonol er mwyn sicrhau fod pob claf yng Nghymru â mynediad cyfartal i'r cyfleoedd diagnostig ac ymchwil a gynigir gan y cyfleuster hwn.

Ym mis Hydref 2014 dewiswyd Caerdydd i fod yn un o chwe chanolfan rhagoriaeth rhanbarthol ar gyfer y Catapwt Meddygaeth Drachywir. Mae meddygaeth drachywir (a elwir hefyd yn feddygaeth bersonol) yn defnyddio profion sy'n benodol ar gyfer y claf i ddeall clefyd claf unigol a dewis y driniaeth fwyaf addas, diogel a chost-effeithiol ar gyfer yr unigolyn hwnnw. Mae'n rhaid i'r GIG fabwysiadu'r wybodaeth arbenigol hon yn gyflym er mwyn cael y buddion gorau ar gyfer cleifion yng Nghymru.

Mae technegau moleciolaidd yn newid sut caiff nifer o glefydon eu rheoli a'u diagnosis, gan gynnwys diagnosis



Blaenoriaeth Dau – Hyfforddi, recriwtio a chadw'r gweithlu cywir

mae'n bwysig y gwneir buddsoddiad parhaus nawr mewn creu gweithlu modern. Mae angen buddsoddi ar unwaith mewn lleoedd hyfforddi, ynghyd â strategaethau recriwtio i fynd i'r afael â phirinderau cyffredol ar lefel meddygon ieuaf a meddygon ymgynghorol. Mae recriwtio rhyngwladol wedi dioddef o ganlyniad i ddeddfau mewnffudo cynyddol gaeth, sydd wedi cyfyngu ar y nifer o feddygon tramor sy'n gallu gweithio yn y DU.

Mae'n anhepgor fod Cymru'n buddsoddi mewn seilwaith patholeg er mwyn datblygu ymhellach gwasanaethau graenus sy'n dennu a chadw meddygon a gwyddonwyr o'r safon uchaf.

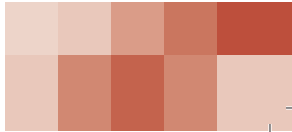
Mae llawer o feysydd patholeg arbenigol yn wnebu pirinderau o staff meddygol a gwyddonol fel ei gilydd yng Nghymru.

Mae patholeg yn hanfodol o ran cyflawni gwell ddiagnosis a thriniaeth o ganser, gwella iechyd cyhoeddus ac atal a rheoli heintadau. Mae patholegwyr yn rhan annatod o dimau clinigol ar draws pob rhan o ofal meddygol a llawfeddygol cyffredinol. Bydd gwasanaethau saith niwrnod, poblogaeth sy'n heneiddio a datblygiadau mewn meddygaeth bersonol yn golygu bydd galwadau ar wasanaethau patholeg yn parhau i gynyddu.

Gan fod hyfforddi patholegwyr a gwyddonwyr yn cymryd rhwng pum a deng mlynedd,

Ardangos meithriniaid bacteria i fyfyrwyr sy'n ymweld ag Ysbyty Brenhinol Morgannwg yn ystod Wythnos Genedlaethol Patholeg, a drefnir gan y Coleg bob Tachwedd





Blaenoriaeth Un – Gweithredur gyfundrefn genedlaethol o arholwyr meddygol

Wedi'i awgrymu am y tro cyntaf yn 2005 gan Ymchwilad Shipman, a'i argymhell ar ôl hynny gan yr ymchwiladâu Stafford a Bae Morecambe, byddai cyfundrefn genedlaethol o arholwyr meddygol yn archwilio pob marwolaeth. Byddai hyn yn darparu atebion ar gyfer teuluoedd, ystadegau cywir fel sail i fuddsoddi mewn iechyd yn y dyfodol a byddai'n nodi tueddiadau mewn gofal is-safonol (fel y rheiny a nodwyd yn adroddiad Andrews, *Trusted to Care*), er mwyn galluogi gweithredu cyn gynted ag y bo modd.

Mae naw cynllun peilot yng Nghymru a Lloegr wedi archwilio dros 23,000 o farwolaethau dros bum mlynedd. Ni all unrhyw gynllun arall i ddiogelu cleifion ddarparu'r fath fuddion mewn ffordd mor gost-effeithiol a dylai Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru weithio gyda'r Adran Iechyd yn Lloegr er mwyn rhoi'r gyfundrefn ar waith cyn gynted ag y bo modd.



Paratoi sleid ym Mwrded Iechyd Cwm Taf

Y Coleg a phatholeg

Coleg Brenhinol y Patholegwyr

Elusen yw Coleg Brenhinol y Patholegwyr gyda thros 11,000 o aelodau dros y byd i gyd, y mae'r rhan fwyaf ohonynt yn gweithio mewn ysbysai a phrifysgolion yn y DU.

Ym mhob cenedl ddatganoleddig yn y DU, mae gan y Coleg gyngor o glinigwyr a gwyddonwyr lleol sy'n cyfarwyddo gweithgarwch yn eu maes. Mae

Patholeg

Gan ei fod yn gyfrannog yn 70% o'r holl ddiagnosiau a weir yn y GIG, patholeg yw'r arbenigedd meddygol wrth galon gofal iechyd modern.

Mae patholeg yn hanfodol er mwyn diagnosis canser, heintadau a niwed i organau, mae'n allweddol yn y gwaith o sgrinio ar gyfer clefydau cynhenid, ac yn anhepgor wrth fonitro cynnydd clefyd ai ymateb i driniaeth, gan gynnwys afiechydon cronig, fel diabetes a chlefyd yr iau.

cadeiryddion cynghorau Cymru, Gogledd Iwerddon a'r Alban yn cynrychioli eu cenhedloedd ar brif Gyngor a Bwrdd Ymddiriedolaeth y Coleg.

Mae'r Coleg wedi ymrwymo i wella gofal cleifion trwy hyrwyddo rhagoriaeth a chynnal y safonau uchaf trwy hyfforddiant, asesiadau, arholiadau a datblygiad proffesiynol.

O broffon cyunedd gol a brechiadau plentyndod i sgrinio, diagnosis a monitro canser, mae patholeg yn anhepgor ym mhob cyfnod o fywyd.

Mae patholegydd yn gyfrannog yng ngofal unrhyw un sy'n cael prawf gwaged, meithriniaid ar gyfer bacteria, prawf gwdd y groth neu ftopsi meinwe.

Gyda'r gefnogiaeth gywir, gall patholeg chwarae rhan ganolog yn narpariad system iechyd mwy effeithiol yng Nghymru, gan wella sut caiff clefydon eu hatal, eu diagnosis a'u trin.



Blaenoriaethau patholeg ar gyfer Cymru – etholiadau 2016

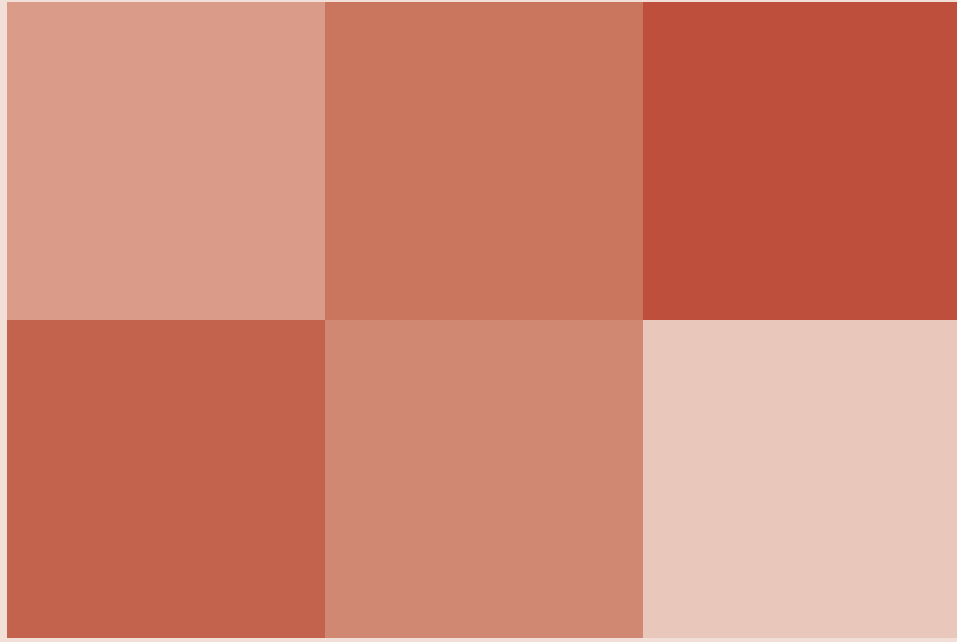
Ym mis Mai, bydd pobl Cymru yn ethol eu cynrychiolwyr i'r Cynulliad Cenedlaethol. Bydd adran weithredol newydd yn cymryd cyfrifoldeb dros ystod o feysydd datganolledig gan gynnwys gwasanaethau iechyd.

Wrth i'r boblogaeth heneiddio ac wrth i afiechydon hirdymor gynyddu mae'n fwy pwysig nag erioed i gefnogi

iechyd da, atal afiechydon a darparu triniaethau yn effeithiol. Patholeg yw'r allwedd i gyflawni'r amcanion hyn. I'r perwyl hwnnw, mae Coleg Brenhinol y Patholegwyr wedi datblygu pedair blaenoriaeth a fyddent, pe cyflawnid hwy, yn gwella iechyd pobl yng Nghymru ac arbed arian.



Dr Esther Youd
Cadeirydd, Cyngor Rhanbarthol Cymru
Coleg Brenhinol y Patholegwyr



Blaenoriaethau patholeg ar gyfer Cymru – etholiadau 2016